



RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

March 12, 2009

Applicant(s): Wolf-Dieter WICHMANN

For: SPRAY DEVICE FOR SPRAYING LIQUIDS, AND NOZZLE HOLDER

Serial No.: 10/579 258 Group: 3752

Confirmation No.: 6585

Filed: May 11, 2006 Examiner: McGraw

International Application No.: PCT/EP2004/012880

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Atty. Docket No.: 5000.P0098US

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#### RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed December 16, 2008. The Office Action addresses claims 2-11. Applicant acknowledges Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-6 with thanks. Claims 7-11 stand rejected under 35 USC §103. The following remarks are included as discussed in the telephone interview conducted between Examiner McGraw and Applicant's representative, Donald J. Wallace, on March 11, 2009. In view of the following remarks, withdrawal of the rejection and reconsideration of the claims are courteously solicited.

Claims 7-11 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chaplinsky '174 in view of Knight '191. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Chaplinsky '174 discloses an automatic feeding system having individual storage tanks for nutrients fluidly connected to an irrigation watering system, each storage tank